



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
6013 Lakeside Blvd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46278

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January 16, 2003

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. IN 300-3-1

SUBJECT: LTP – 2003 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

Purpose: To provide the field offices with forms for 2003 WHIP program.

Expiration Date: December 31, 2003

Attached are the forms needed to implement the WHIP program in Indiana for FY 2003. Included are the following:

1. Checklist for WHIP program.
2. List of new forms for WHIP Program.
3. 2003 Ranking Worksheet.
4. 2003 Guidance Document.
5. Forms –
  - AD-1153 Application for Long-term Contracted Assistance Through the WHIP Program
  - AD-1154 Long-Term Agreement
  - AD-1154 Attachment A: General Provisions
  - AD-1154 Special Provisions
  - AD-1155 Conservation Plan Schedule of Operations
  - AD-1155A Conservation Plan Schedule of Operations Signature Page
  - AD-1156 Revision of Plan or Schedule of Operations or Modification of Contract
  - AD-1161 Application for Payment

There have been a few changes to the WHIP Ranking Worksheet. To address forest land improvement, feathering of woodland edges to create wildlife habitat and forest regeneration openings were added to Early Successional Habitat Development. A separate item was entered for Tree/Shrub Establishment (612). Practices that were previously under Upland Wildlife Habitat Management were moved to this item. These practices include Bottomland Hardwood, Pine/Conifers (only) and Hardwood (mixture).

Cost sharing will now be allowed for recurring practices such as strip disking, strip mowing, and prescribed burning. This will be allowed for those practices that require these measures in order to maintain the practice until the end of the contract period.

Cost-share rates were increased for several practices.

The cap on the maximum cost share limit that a landowner can receive through WHIP without State Conservationist approval has been raised to \$25,000.

The provision under the WHIP program to allow 90 percent cost-share on a contract of 15 years will not be used for the WHIP program in Indiana in FY 2003. This provision is designed to target practices on essential plant and animal habitat.

The above mentioned forms are attached in a zipped file. Save the file to your hard drive before unzipping. The zipped file is NOT password-protected. If you experience problems unzipping the file, contact John Poenisch (John.Poenisch@in.usda.gov) at the State Office who will transmit the unzipped version to you.

Questions concerning any of the forms or worksheets can be directed to John Poenisch at Ext. 357 or Dwayne Howard at Ext. 386.

/s/  
JANE E. HARDISTY  
State Conservationist

Attachments

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